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Dispute brews over Plainfield's 1990 school aid



Plainfield Superintendent of Schools Dr. Larry Leverett

PLAINFIELD—Dr. Larry Leverett, Plainfield's superintendent of schools, said he is seeking proposals from auditing companies to review the management controls in the school district after a state audit of 1990-1991 school records uncovered discrepancies that led to \$875 million in overpayments by the New Jersey Department of education in school aid.

"The state audit was done last spring," Dr. Leverett said. "The auditors found that in the 1990-1991 school year, which was the basis for school aid payments in the following years, there were 2,000 missing or invalid school lunch applications and other deficiencies."

According to Leverett, state officials have indicated that because the accounts are missing, they will ask the school district to return \$7 million to the state. The school district is awaiting a letter from the state specifying the exact number and amount of overpayments made by the state.

"There are appeal procedures established by the state and I fully intend to use those," Dr. Leverett said. "I believe it may be possible to produce records that will satisfactorily address some, if not all, of the missing applications." However, he says he doesn't expect a resolution until the 1997-1998 school year.

The examination of the district's records was part of a statewide review of enrollment reports for special needs districts which includes Plainfield. Tom King, director of compliance for the state Department of Education, disclosed the audit in Trenton last August.

"The discrepancies were the result of mismanagement of documents, during a time in the school district when there was no business administrator and when there was great instability in the schools because of high turnover rates," says the superintendent. "The school district is required to retain records of school lunch eligibility for several years. That wasn't done."

The hiring of an auditing company will seek to evaluate the school lunch program as well as several other functions. Included in the review will be transportation student accounting, work-order procedures, personnel payroll and purchasing procedures.

REACTIONS TO MILLION MAN MARCH



Men at the Million Man March hold up \$1 bills to contribute to a donation. Some of the money went to the city of Washington DC to employ workers for the clean up after the march.

Photo by Henry Johnson

by Sandra Wright

A week has passed and the enthusiasm from the Million Man March still hangs in the air. Men are still reminiscing about the feelings of belonging and togetherness felt during the march. Others see this as a new start for a lasting future.

There were men from all walks of life gathered on the great lawn of the Capitol. Movie stars, doctors, lawyers, businessmen, students, teenagers, police officers, musicians; name a profession, and they were there. City News had the opportunity to hear from local participants about their feelings toward the march and their plans for the future.

East Orange Police Officer and NJ march organizer DeLacy Davis was ecstatic over the turnout and said it was beyond what he expected. Davis said it was just wonderful being in Washington with black men and feeling that he belonged.

"It was the first time in my life, in America, that I felt proud, genuinely proud, to be amongst all black men. I felt faith, I felt love and I felt that

—Yes, I am my brother's keeper and he is mine," he said.

Davis remembers the first time ever having those same feelings, but it was not here in America. "The only other time that I had experienced that feeling was in Ghana West Africa last December...I cried in Africa because I had never felt that at home amongst my own people...It was even more exhilarating and painful for me on Monday because I was at home (in America) feeling those African spirits."

Teenager, Henry "CJ" Johnson had only one word to express what he felt in Washington. "Love. A lot of the brothers were helping each other, there was no arguing everything was peaceful," Johnson said.

Johnson felt that the march was a success, even though there were some people who were against Farrakhan, but it wasn't about Farrakhan. "It was about black brothers uniting and it showed that black people are not all-ways about fighting."

In playing his part to make a pos-

See REACTIONS TO MARCH/page A-4

Myrlie Evers-Williams leads NAACP to a fresh-start

by Sherry Burrus

EAST BRUNSWICK—Thunderous rounds of applause echoed throughout the Brunswick Hilton and Towers' conference room as the head honcho of the NAACP brought a crowd of nearly 300 to their feet concluding a weekend (October 6-8) long state convention.

Myrlie Evers-Williams, chairperson of the National Board of Directors, keynoteed the "FreshStart Breakfast" at the 73rd Annual NAACP State Convention proving that the NAACP was indeed moving onward, upward, toward a new beginning—a fresh start.

"Think big, act, big and you'll get big," said the 62-year-old NAACP head referring to the \$100,000 contribution the organization received. Upon request, from a yearly contributing corporation. The corporation initially told Evers-Williams they were considering withdrawing the annual \$10,000 after the negative publicity the NAACP received earlier this year. So what did she do? She asked for a \$90,000 (refuse). And got it.

Evers-Williams says that 80 years, the mission, of the oldest civil rights organization in the country remains the same. "I suspect that there will always be some degree of racism

in this country...so the NAACP will always be needed and our mission remains the same," but later added it was time to "clean house."

"It is imperative that we have a well managed operation. Otherwise we will founder and there will be internal difficulties and I am determined to see that that does not happen," said the chairwoman.

Voices of Inspiration, a youth group out of Somerset, performed several inspirational songs. Praising the breakfast forum was Karen Smyles, host of NIN's Another View.

New Jersey Senators Wynona

Lipman and Frank Lautenberg were also on hand at the event. Sen. Lipman was appointed and recognized as Honorary Chairperson of membership for the NJ State Convention of the NAACP. Lautenberg welcomed Evers-Williams to the Garden State and praised her for her work in and out of the NAACP.

"I would like to welcome Mrs. Myrlie Evers-Williams to New Jersey. You and I have taken on a formidable task but based on what I know, read and have seen, you certainly have the ability to do this job."

According to the chairwoman, the year has been an exhausting one

as she has assumed many responsibilities including: ensuring all finances were in order; review all past programs; cutting staff; strengthening the Washington DC office; installing a chief financial officer; completing audits of offices; composing a management team and creating a fund raising committee.

She says some of her decisions have been difficult including her decision of having to fire several employees, adding, "it comes down to either keeping the association's doors open or saying good-bye to some staff."

"I am not here to win a popularity

See FRESH START/page A-6

Million Man March: personal and public responsibility

From the National Rainbow Coalition

WASHINGTON, DC—The official estimate said 400,000 black men marched on Washington. The march organizers claimed 1 million-plus. Perhaps Dr. Conrad Worrill stated the sentiment of those who came to Washington most accurately: "White people can't count." The fact is, the idea of a Million Man March touched a nerve deep in the heart and soul of a people yearning to breathe free.

Whatever the numbers, it was a great and historical event. A great psychological and spiritual awakening took place. The sounds of chains and shackles breaking from the ankles and minds of men was heard and

felt. In the spirit of atonement, healing and recovery, sins against God and one another were confessed. God heard the prayers of sincere hearts and minds and granted divine forgiveness, spiritual reconciliation and renewal.

Black men (and black people) are under attack today by the courts, by legislatures, by some executives (both political and corporate) and by the mass media. We are attacked for sport so others can win votes and make money.

Ultimately, America will benefit and we'll be grateful for the march. It was a day when a rising tide for racial justice, gender equality, family stability, inclusion and fairness expanded and escalated the effort to lift the boats stuck at the bottom—and the

entire country will benefit.

The speakers' calls for greater self-control and personal responsibility were correct. But personal responsibility must be matched by public responsibility and public policy.

The U.S. House must be held responsible for the public policy of cutting \$1.1 billion from the nation's poorest public schools; for cutting \$137 million from Head Start, and eliminating 45,000 pre-schoolers from the budget; and for cutting \$871 million from youth summer jobs, eliminating 600,000 jobs for youth.

The result of such callousness? In almost every major city the two new buildings are new sports stadium and new jail—one, using our physically talented youth to entertain; the other to incarcerate our phys-

ically able, but unemployed, youth, who are feared.

What can a million men do? We can reduce divorce rates, stop self-destructive behavior, drive out guns and drugs, and see the 10 ethical commandments as the keys to educational and economic empowerment. We can pay alimony and child support where there is no matrimony, and we can support fathers rather than deadbeat dads. A million men can lead the charge to stop domestic violence and spare our children the trauma of an abusive father.

A million men can joint venture with their children's teachers:

- Take their child to school
- Meet their child's teacher
- Exchange home telephone numbers with teachers

- Turn off the television for at least three hours each night
- Pick up a report card every nine weeks

Initial report cards

A million men can meet with judges and become mentors and nurturers, and provide alternatives to unnecessary jailings. A million men can use selective patronage (boycotts). The creative use of economic power worked for Dr. King in Montgomery and Nelson Mandela in South Africa. A million men can register voters and change the political equation.

Kennedy beat Nixon by 118,000 votes; Nixon beat Humphrey by 550,000 votes. The Gingrich forces won by a cumulative, and strategic, 19,000 votes. In 1994, five million

See RESPONSIBILITY/page A-6

Essex County Young Democrats honor community leaders

by Kaylin Dine

NEWARK—Recently, the Essex County Young Democrats (ECYD) hosted its first State of the County Address and Awards Banquet honoring several prominent local elected officials.

Greetings were delivered by ECYD Executive Board Member Terrance Baine who said a feeling of dissatisfaction gave birth to coordinating this event. More specifically, "As young democrats, we have not been all that thrilled with the way the party has been conducting itself...As young democrats, we worry that there will not be a strong democratic party year for us to take over in the years to come...In a sense, it is an appeal to all of you to unite and pull together," Baine exclaimed.

Also encouraging increased unity, ECYD President Ronald Rice, Jr. stated the Young Democrats' views on the party, the county and community issues via a state of the county address.

In terms of the state of the county, Rice stated, "there are a lot of problems going on within our Party. We've

been rocked with charges of corruption and we've been rocked with charges of ineptitude."

Rather than downplaying these incidents as another turn in the swivel chair of life, Rice went on to say, "We have to understand that although it is easy to take potshots at others, some of the blame falls squarely and directly on our shoulders."

According to Rice, the way to increase the pride within the Party is by focusing on community issues and going back to the grassroots.

"It doesn't just mean registering people when election time comes around. It means registering people year round. It means teaching people the importance of a vote. It means educating folks about issues. It means educating people and letting them know that when they write letters it does have an effect."

"We, the Young Democrats, plan to lead by example. We plan to take what's best from the party, we plan to reject what's worse, we plan to criticize the party when we feel it's wrong, and we plan to support the party with all our might when it's right because we have an investment in this organization," said Rice.

Rice noted that the evening was to honor those officials who had the most impact in their community and represent what is best about the Democratic party.

"Having a stake in this party means we should honor those who we feel are most progressive, those who represent that which is best in the party and that which represents young people's viewpoints around the county," Rice added.

Marking the establishment of the ECYD Hall of Fame Award, the first award honoring the memory of the late Louis Turco, a former ECYD president and city council person, who was noted for his commitment.

Both the Honorable Jeffery Monacelli, a councilman in Orange, and the Hon. David Katz, a councilman in Livingston, accepted awards as Young Democrat Elected Officials of the Year.

Her unwavering support of the Young Democrats earned the Hon. Mildred Crump, the first African-American woman to be elected to the Newark City Council, the award of Municipal Official of the Year.

According to Rice, Councilwoman Crump's caring, yet nurturing na-



Councilwoman Mildred Crump and Senator Ronald Rice were among the honorees at the reception.

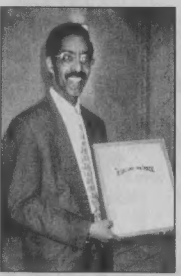


Photo by Kaylin Dine

ture, resulted in many of the Young Democrats calling her "Mom."

Crump expressed her gratitude and encouraged her colleagues "to feed this organization the inspiration, the wisdom, and the knowledge that is necessary for growth."

Essex County Sheriff Armondo Fontoura was honored with the Ethical Government Award. Rice quoted Fontoura on a statement he made upon his appointment to the position of Sheriff. "I just want to be the best law

See COMMUNITY LEADERS/page A-6

PEOPLE

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

THRU OCTOBER 31
BLOOMFIELD—Prints (on loan from Newark Public Library) on display at Bloomfield College. For more info call 201-749-9000, ext. 343.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25
EAST ORANGE—"Where is GOD in the ghetto?" program at East Orange High School at 4:15 p.m. For more info call 201-673-2193.

PLAINFIELD—"City Council Candidates Forum" at the Plainfield Public Library at 7:30 p.m. For more info call 908-755-0052.

SOUTH ORANGE—Career Day at Seton Hall University from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more info call 201-761-9355.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26
N. PLAINFIELD—Tutoring Training Workshop at North Plainfield Community Adult School at 6:30 p.m. For more info call 908-755-7895.

SOUTH ORANGE—Diversity & High Performance Work Teams conference at Seton Hall University at 12:30 p.m. For more info call 901-761-9355.

OCTOBER 27 AND NOVEMBER 3
CHANDLER—"Lotus" program at Union College at 7:30 a.m. For more info call 908-706-7600.

OCTOBER 27 & 29
PLAINFIELD—Rummage and garage sale at the First Unitarian Society of Plainfield at 9 a.m. For more info call 908-632-4855.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27
JERSEY CITY—"Screening, Assessment and Diagnosis for Alcoholism and Drug Abuse" course for those seeking to become drug abuse counselors at Jersey City State College. For more info call 201-200-3089.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28
MANVILLE—Third Annual Doll and Teddy Bear Show and Sale at Manville YW Hall at 10 a.m. For more info call 908-722-3275.

NEWARK—"Fiesta Ecuadorian" celebration of music and culture at 3 p.m. at The Newark Museum. For more info call 201-733-7745.

JERSEY CITY—"Case Management" course for those seeking to become drug abuse counselors at Jersey City State College. For more info call 201-200-3089.

JERSEY CITY—"Illegal Drugs and Their Legal Relatives" course for those seeking to become drug abuse counselors at Jersey City State College. For more info call 201-200-3089.

NEW BRUNSWICK—Arlpride's Third Annual Walk-A-Thon at Rutgers University. For more info call 201-379-3636, ext. 2336.

OCTOBER 28 & 29
SOMERVILLE—"Bright Light: Laser Harmonic Concert" at Raritan Valley Community College at 5 and 9:30 p.m. For more info call 908-331-8805.

Teresa Hale appointed to Union County Election Board



ELIZABETH—Teresa Hale of Hillside is the newest commissioner of Union County's Election Board. She was recently sworn in by retiring County Clerk Walter Halpin (l) of Fanwood. Holding the bible so that Hale can take her oath of office is her son Jason, (r) a Hillside High School student.

Photo courtesy of Union County Presidencies

Open house at BUF

PLAINFIELD—BUF/NJ Community Center Complex will have an open house from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. to introduce its fall/winter dance and instrumental lessons. The center is located at 403 W. Seventh Street. For more information call 908-561-0123.

Plainfield resident honored with Distinguished Faculty Award



TEANECK—Dr. Robert Stinerock, a resident of Plainfield, has been honored with the Distinguished Faculty Award for Teaching at ceremonies at Fairleigh Dickinson University. The honor celebrates Stinerock's ability to bring out the best in others, both in and out of the classroom. An assistant professor of marketing, Stinerock joined the FDU faculty in 1991 and teaches a variety of undergraduate and graduate marketing courses. Dr. Robert Stinerock (c) is congratulated on his award by Professor Malcolm Sturcho (l) and Dr. Richard Bronson (r).

Photo courtesy of FDU

Make your vote count: register to vote

NEWARK—Betty Cobb and Willola Ashley of Beta Alpha Omega Chapter, Newark of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., register a young man to vote at it's annual Voter Registration Drive.

Photo courtesy of AKA

NJIT employees honored for years of service



NEWARK—Newark residents James Wigfall (l) and Golden Bell (c) and Arlisa Bryan (r) of Plainfield were recently honored by New Jersey Institute of Technology for over 10 years of service. Wigfall, a custodian/mover in the Physical Plant Department, and Bell, a principal clerk stenographer in the Department of Alumni Affairs, have both been employees of NJIT for 15 years. They each received a pin to commemorate the occasion. Bryan, who is secretary to the VP for university advancement also received a pin to acknowledge her 10 year employment status.

Photo courtesy of NJIT

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NATION

National News
at a glanceMILLION MAN MARCH:
A 'MILLION' OR
400,000?

Showing that black Americans are getting away from letting the larger white community control its agenda and attitudes, most are ignoring the crowd estimates given by the government's Park Police regarding the Million Man March (MMM) and going with "what we say," which is a million, stated Washington News Dimension publisher Barry Murray. "If we continue to let white people control and write our agenda and destinies, we are the fools," stated Murray, who attended the March.—WASHINGTON, DC

B.I.G. OFFERS HELP TO
BLACK MALES AT
MMM

Speaking at the Million Man March (MMM), Oscar Eason, Jr., president of the 300-chapter Blacks in Government (B.I.G.) organization pledged the assistance of his group to help the economic plight of black males across the country. Eason stated that blacks are being "bypassed" on the Super Information Highway because they do not possess the computer skills required for going into the 21st century. "I am pleased to announce that B.I.G. chapters across America will be working in partnership with the Science Mathematics Aerospace Research Technology, Inc. (SMART) and the Alliance of Black Technical Organizations (ABTO). Our B.I.G. chapters will be working with local schools, colleges, and universities in an effort to provide them with computer access and knowledge," Eason said.—WASHINGTON, DC

MEDICARE FRAUD AS
HIGH AS \$30 BILLION A
YEAR

According to the National Health Care Anti-Fraud Association, the nation's Medicare program has an annual rate of \$30 billion in fraud each year and its costs are rising more than 10 percent annually. The group criticizes the program saying, "It relies on a centralized command-and-control system to seek out waste and abuse rather than relying on the competitive power of the market." Employer premium costs fell 1.1 percent, on average, in 1994 and managed care premiums are realizing a predicted decline of 1.2 percent for 1995. The association also reports that the average amount Medicare beneficiaries spend from their own pockets has been rising by 10 percent for the last 20 years.—WASHINGTON, DC

FEDERAL SENTENCES
LONGER FOR BLACKS

Blacks get prison sentences about 10 percent longer than whites for similar crimes, says a computer analysis published by *The Tennesseean* newspaper. Whites convicted in 1992-93 received an average sentence of 33 months, while blacks got 36 months. The study examined all 80,000 federal court convictions during the two year period. The study found the highest black-white sentencing disparity (13 percent) in the West. The South had the lowest disparity; three percent. Sentences for blacks were 12 percent higher in the Midwest and 10 percent in the Northeast.—WASHINGTON, DC

ONE PERCENT OF
PILOTS ARE BLACK

An industry survey shows that fewer than one percent of the nation's commercial airline pilots are African American. According to the head of the organization of Black Airline Pilots, Perry Jones, "We have more black pilots in 1942 than we do today." Even in the military, which has provided a wide range of career opportunities to minorities, 98 percent of all pilots are white males.—WASHINGTON, DC

Continental named official airline of NJPAC

NEWARK—The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) has named Continental Airlines as its official airline as part of a three-year sponsorship. The agreement, which extends through the arts center's opening season in 1997, is one of Continental's largest regional sponsorship arrangements and marks the arts center's first "official supplier" relationship.

The arrangement will enable the arts center to bring in artists prior to the 1997 grand premiere for special

pre-opening events and tours of the new venue.

"Continental Airlines' decision to invest in Newark as a hub has made a major impact on the region which NJPAC hopes to build on and magnify in the future," said Morris Tanenbaum, co-chairman of the NJPAC Capital Campaign and retired vice-chairman and CEO of AT&T. "Our mutual desire to promote Newark as a destination creates a natural partnership which is beneficial for all involved, and particularly

for the City of Newark."

John LeBaron, regional marketing director for Continental Airlines, said the partnership "was a natural marriage. Continental Airlines has invested significantly in its presence in Newark. It is important to our million of travelers that our hub cities have locations which offer the same kind of world class services we provide in the air."

"NJPAC's commitment to the region and its goal to provide the world's finest on its stages makes our

partnership a sound investment. We feel privileged to be among the first sponsors to partner with NJPAC during its pre-opening phase," he added.

The benefits to Continental are multi-faceted, according to Peter Hansen, NJPAC's director of Corporate Development and sponsorship marketing. "Continental has an exceptional reputation for sponsoring arts and culture in its key markets," Hansen said.

The airline and NJPAC will be involved in projects that cross-

market each other, both at Newark International Airport's Terminal C, at NJPAC's construction and in the completed building.

With steel complete, NJPAC is well on its way toward completion and its 1997 opening night. The \$165 million arts center, will include a 2700-seat great hall, the 500-seat Victoria Theater, two restaurants, banquet facilities, administrative offices, a gift shop and Theater Square, an adjacent public plaza.

Annual school conference focuses on funding educational reform

TRENTON—Public school officials from throughout New Jersey will focus on the future of the state's school funding system and its education program during Workshop '95, the annual conference for the state's public school leadership.

"Public education in New Jersey is at a critical juncture. Within the next year, our state must decide how it will fund its public schools in the future," explained Mark J. Finkelstein, New Jersey School Board Association (NJSBA) president. "The decision may have a dramatic impact on the type of instruction our children will receive."

Workshop '95 is designed to give local school board members and administrators the opportunity to hear the insights of state and national education leaders on the pending changes and a forum to express their own

viewpoints on the issues.

More than 8,000 school board members, administrators and other educators are expected to attend the October 25-27 conference in Atlantic City. The 43rd annual conference is sponsored by the NJSBA of School Administrators and the New Jersey Association of School Business Officials.

Dr. Leo Klagholz, state commissioner of education, will lead a discussion of the "Comprehensive Plan for Educational Improvement and Financing in New Jersey" on Wednesday, October 25.

Public discussion of Klagholz' plan represents the Whitman administration's first step in defining the components of a "thorough and efficient education." Based on this definition, the administration will propose a new funding system for New Jersey's public schools. Under current order, New Jersey must have a new education finance system in place by

September 1996.

On Friday, October 27, Dr. Ernest Boyer, one of the nation's leading voices on educational reform and innovation, will add a nationwide perspective to the debate over the type of education children need. President of the Princeton-based Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, Boyer stresses an innovative role for teachers, technologically advanced classrooms, small class sizes and major changes in the early years of

children's education.

The conference will offer more than 125 training and information sessions. Programs will explore issues such as shared/consolidated services, privatization, technology in schools, inclusion of learning disabled students in the regular classroom, school-business partnerships and innovative curriculum. In addition, more than 500 exhibits of school products and services will be displayed in the Atlantic City Convention Center.

SMALL BUSINESS LOANS

David Vidal to lead
council's diversity
programs

NEW YORK—David J. Vidal, corporate public affairs officer, former White House Fellow, and Fulbright Scholar, has been named vice-president of the Project for Diversity in International Affairs and director of Diversity Programs at the Council on Foreign Relations.

The programs are aimed to increasing minority representation in both the Council's staff and membership, promoting research in issues that have relevance for minorities, and stimulating opportunities in international affairs for people of diverse backgrounds.

Council President Leslie H. Gelb, in announcing the appointment, said, "The Council is committed to diversity—not only out of a sense of responsibility, but in the knowledge that the international issues confronting America today demand the broadest possible perspectives. With a demonstrated record of accomplishment and a passion to find positive solutions to social problems, David Vidal is exceptionally qualified to lead this important project."

Vidal stated, "America's minorities represent a vast untapped resource for virtually all the Council's activities. I am committed to developing new relationships in a way that will not only bring in more diverse viewpoints, but also expand the possibilities for the Council to engage in the public debate."

Vidal comes to the Council from CNA/Continental Insurance where he was vice-president and manager of the Continental Corporation Foundation and assistant vice-president of Corporate Affairs. Vidal also headed a private-sector Task Force on the Board of Elections, and co-authored the plan of reform for New York's voting system.

He is a graduate of Princeton University (1968) and Columbia University's Graduate School of Business (1991). In 1968-69, Vidal was a Fulbright Scholar at the Universidad Central de Venezuela.

WE'VE GOT THE STUFF
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OPINION

EDITORIAL THE DRUM BEAT

While many think it's over, it has just begun. The Million Man March has become the trumpet calling for a new day in black communities throughout the country. We, *City News*, as other black press and media, were proud to serve as the communication link that kept the march in front of black people.

Had it not been for the ongoing articles and editorials concerning the significance of this event, black America would have been even more reluctant to participate in an event that only received negative and marginal visibility from the majority press.

City News pledges to continue its reporting on the Million Man Movement as a significant force and catalyst within the black community. Listen for the drum beat, it's inside *City News*, an African American newspaper focusing on the interests, concerns and accomplishments of black communities in New Jersey.

by Connie Woodruff

The Million Man March on Washington was a spectacular event. More than that, it was the much needed moral and psychological boost African-American men and their families welcomed at a time in this country when the black community appears to be on a downward slide.

So what if the concept of black men coming together in a show of strength and determination was created by Minister Farrakhan? Judging by the response it was an idea whose time had come.

Many of the politicians who gladly responded to the invitation to participate had been the most critical of the Muslim leader, but when the television cameras were turned on, there

were, front and center. None had been brave enough to take the gamble Farrakhan did, no matter what his future plans may be. And he provided a long held theory that one does not have to be an elected official to have power.

I wasn't the least bit disturbed when the planners billed the event as a "men only" happening. It laid to rest the myth of the black community as a marginal society.

The city is there are so many other groups that could have done the same thing—the Congressional Black Caucus; Operation PUSH; NBKLEO; Black Issues Convention; Prince Hall Masons; Greek Fraternities and the multiple fringe groups that survive on government grants on the basis of being black or working, in behalf of

disadvantaged African Americans. Have they indeed grown so far from the people they are afraid to reach out and touch?

The Million Man March was especially effective for the young black males. Parents are now motivated to teach African-American youth what they may face as adults.

Our children have to learn early that this is an imperfect world where too often black youths are the targets of prejudice and the victims of the social ills destroying black families and distorting black values.

For one day black men stood up to be counted and they were not found wanting. So where do we go from here? Are we just going to bask in the sunlight of one glorious day or will we continue to stand tall as a people

who care about each other? For one shining day we were equals. The African-American intellectuals, the professionals, the unemployables and the homeless.

Minister Farrakhan has called for an aggressive voter registration campaign. It can be done and everybody, including women, can participate. More importantly, after we've registered the millions out there who are eligible but do not vote, our greater responsibility is getting them to the polls on election day.

Politicians believe in numbers. Therefore the potential voting power of the Million Man March was awesome to Democrats and Republicans. To them it was threatening. To most African Americans it was the light at the end of the tunnel.

Will white America ever 'get it'?

by Julian Robinson

Four years ago, following the Al Hill Clarence Thomas hearings before the Senate's Judiciary Committee, women's and civil rights activists alleged that, by the cavalier manner in which they dealt with Professor Hill's charges, senators showed that they "simply didn't get it" (the message of the hearings).

It's understandable, therefore, why leading up to the recent resignation of Senator Robert Packwood as the result of well-documented sexual harassment charges against him, there was much speculation in the national news media about whether this time the senators would "get it." Apparently they did, for their own Ethics Committee unanimously recommended Sen. Packwood's expulsion, and he resigned immediately.

Both high-profile public events come to mind as I try to digest and interpret public reaction to the verdict in the O.J. Simpson trial, particularly that bitterly vocal response emanating from the approximately 75 percent of white America which considers Simpson guilty. Sadly and tragically, the negative intensity of that response would seem to indicate that white America is totally incapable. Any time, of "getting" the full and true significance of the Simpson verdict.

Worse still, some armchair analysts who consider the Simpson verdict "seriously flawed" go so far as to predict dire consequences for the nation's black population—as if Newt Gingrich and company have not already inflicted sufficient damage in that area. Writing in *The Boston Globe* several days later, John Ellis forces a vastly changed national political scene and climate.

According to Ellis, "You could feel it on the street. You could hear it on the phone and for hour after hour on talk radio. What you heard was the sound of white America shutting down on their fellow Americans who are black; not on the blacks they know and work with, but on them—the black Americans they know about from watching television."

As if offering facious support to this thesis, Oprah Winfrey declares that according to black opinion in her building, they have not received a single tip from white tenants since the verdict. And CBS commentator Andy Rooney fueled white heat more with the announcement that he is so sure Simpson is guilty that he will pay a reward of \$1 million for the person providing identification leading to the conviction of a killer.

Underlying the litany, of may-saying and prediction of doom, has been the potentially racist assumption that something must be terribly wrong with our vaunted criminal justice system because it worked so well (finally) for a black defendant accused of

murdering white people. The supreme irony in this circumstance is that some of the same types who for 200 years have lashed out against the system as the result of well-documented sexual harassment charges against him, there was much speculation in the national news media about whether this time the senators would "get it." Apparently they did, for their own Ethics Committee unanimously recommended Sen. Packwood's expulsion, and he resigned immediately.

- * 10-2 (rather than unanimous) jury verdicts
- * Curtailment of jury sequestration
- * Evaluation of the standard of reasonable doubt
- * Changes in jury selection procedures
- * No more cameras in the courtroom
- * Muzzling of lawyers' out-of-court comments
- * More courtroom powers to prosecutors

Rather than continuing to demean and damn the Simpson jury and rushing to fix something that isn't broken (or wasn't considered so while it was acquitting wealthy high-profile white defendants), here's hoping calm and rational voices can begin to prevail within both of the two Americas (so accurately predicted by the 1968 Kerner Commission) in which we presently reside.

Perhaps both sides should take a second long look at the principal facts of the trial and then consider the following advice of Yale University graduate student Peter Gershwin: "The Simpson acquittal was based not upon sentiment over racial prejudice, but upon reasonable doubt triggered from errors by investigators, and the perjury of detectives Fuhman and Vannatter... errors and perjury uncovered by a meticulous defense team willing to examine these professions to maximum power.... Robert Frost said that a jury consists of 12 persons chosen to decide who has the better lawyer." If during this pursuit, the better lawyer demands closer examination of law enforcement ethics and protocol, it is a victory for We the People.

More earthly assessment, but just as precisely on target, is the assessment of a 34-year-old racist white roofer in the Maryland suburb of Washington. "I ain't going to lie," he said, "I've said the N-word. My friends use it. But I've never heard anyone say crap like that. Fuhman, my uncle's a state trooper. I feel like Mark Fuhman disgraced all police officers.... Before Mark Fuhman, I swear, I thought O.J. did it. Now I respect what the jury decided."

Who knows! There may yet be hope for white America.

PASTOR'S WORD

by Rev. Reginald Jackson & Ralford Wheeler

Last Monday, October 16th, thousands of African-American men went to Washington to participate in the Million Man March. It was indeed a great day! The largest single gathering of African-American men in one place in this nation's history.

The National Park Service placed the crowd at 400,000, which is a gross underestimate. That crowd stretched from the Capital Plaza all the way to the Washington Monument which is at least four blocks. There were 11,000 buses that came, which if full was more than half a million people. This does not include those who came by plane, train, car or those who live in the Washington area. Surely the crowd numbered over one million people.

This "Day of Atonement" was a call and a challenge for African-American men to commit ourselves to strengthening our families, rebuilding our communities and participating in the political, economic and social development of our cities, states and nations. It was a spiritual revival. One had to be there to feel the energy, brotherhood and genuine love among that sea of African-American men.

One brother just screamed out crying and said, "I've never felt so safe and so loved like I do here." This was the spirit among millions of African-American men. Millions across the country, while not feeling the energy, surely felt the pride, joy and hope that came from the march.

The messages from those who spoke were focused and directed on what we needed to do when we get back home. This of course will be the barometer by which we measure the success of the march. Minister Louis Farrakhan, who deserves tremendous credit for the call and other speakers defined clearly the areas and responsibilities which need our attention at home.

Several weeks ago, there were discussions with various segments of our community on a strategy to strengthen families and rebuild our communities. What we need to do will involve the participation of every segment of our community. The church, business community, school system, public housing, block associations, police departments, elected officials, community organizations, etc., must strategize and work together. Our families can stay intact; our

children can be raised; drug dealers and prostitutes can be cleared off our streets; our schools can be improved; public housing can be a secure and nurturing environment and our neighborhoods can be safe.

The African-American community is also the target of much of the legislation and budget cutting coming out of Washington and state houses. One of the results of the march will be African-Americans becoming more responsible participants in the political process. Be assured that you will see a surge in voter registration and education. In the State of New Jersey alone, in February black

What can one million men do?

churches will turn in 50,000 up to 100,000 voter registrations and follow up on those that they vote in November's election. This revived political awareness and involvement will make it more difficult for politicians, Democrats and Republicans to ignore us and vote against us.

There was much criticism and controversy surrounding Monday's march. For two decades African-American males have been chastised and put down for not providing leadership and being irresponsible and told we need to get together.

When then the call came to come together to become responsible and

provide leadership the hue and cry was why do they have to get together? Why do they have to go to Washington?

Well despite the hue and cry more than one million African-American men, got together, and indeed "black is beautiful" when it assembles in solidarity for a positive cause.

The march is over but the work has only begun. A work in the African-American community which will reach up to God for strength and faith and out to the nation, people of all races in brotherhood as we prayerfully and hopefully move "toward a more perfect union."

When then the call came to come together to become responsible and

Reactions to March

Continued from page A-1

lative contribution to his community Johnson says he intends to continue his education and excel at whatever he does and "try to help my friends realize how white America feels about them and encourage them to excel and do positive things to build their communities."

Plainfield resident and entrepreneur, Gene Baucum, was also a participant in the march and says he feels very optimistic and positive about what the future holds.

"I was very happy to be a participant. I think that it allowed us to move into the next dimension as African-American men—to move forward and take care of some of the problems that we face. All of the conversations that I have had, with

people that attended as well as those who did not attend, were very positive," he said.

"We are headed in a new direction and we are better prepared and motivated for success," stated Baucum who also admitted it was an experience he never had before.

See REACTIONS TO MARCH/page A-6

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Middlesex	43,680	Warren	30,880

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KIDS CALENDAR

THRU OCTOBER
TRENTON—"The Moon Witch" planetarium show at The State Museum every Saturday and Sunday at 1 and 3 p.m. For more info call 609-292-6310.

NEWARK—"The Power" African Skits, "Mini Zoo Matters" and "Discover Wildlife Scavenger Hunt" programs at the Newark Public Library. For more info call 201-596-6550.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26
PLAINFIELD—"Children's Film Program" at the Plainfield Public Library at 3:30 p.m. For more info call 908-757-1111.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27
PLAINFIELD—"Little People's Storytime" at the Plainfield Public Library at 11 a.m. For more info call 908-757-1111.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28
TRENTON—Kaleidoscope Kids "Mask in Theatre and Mask in Fun" workshop at The State Museum at 10 and 11:15 a.m. For more info call 609-292-6310.

OCTOBER 28 THRU NOVEMBER 18
CRANFORD—"Pea-Wee Astronomy" countywide tour of the night sky from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. at Union County College. For more info call 908-709-7600.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29
WATCHUNG—"A Night In The Graveyard" at Tralalade from 2-2:45 p.m. For more info call 908-768-3670 or 908-527-4746.

TRENTON—Kaleidoscope Kids host a Halloween costume party at The State Museum. For more info call 609-292-6310.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31
PLAINFIELD—Hobnobbin' Goblins Halloween Puppet Show at the Plainfield Public Library at 5 p.m. Pre-registration is required. For more info call 908-757-1111.

Unclaimed scholarships available for students

PORTSMOUTH, NH—With confusion over federal student grant approvals, direct government student loans and changes in college financial aid guidelines, many students are finding it difficult to identify and understand their financial aid options and are missing out on receiving assistance that could be available to them.

Unknown to most people, there are over 375,000 scholarship and grant sources available which do not have to be paid back. Eighty percent of these scholarships do not depend on family need or exceptional grades but are awarded based on factors such as the student's interests, hobbies, academic focus, age, heritage or parent's work or military service.

Kraft offers guide to historic black colleges and universities

NORTHFIELD, IL—Kraft Foods, Inc. has announced the publication of *This Way Success, A Guide to Historically Black Colleges*, a new guide designed to make the college application and selection process easier for prospective African-American students and their families.

This Way to Success offers essential admissions information for 95 historical black colleges and universities including: majors offered, enrollment, tuition, room and board, standardized test required and application deadline. In addition, the handbook contains a list of graduate school majors, a directory of universities who these majors are offered and a map of the United States depicting the states in which these institutions are located. Also featured in the handbook are inspiration quotes by black luminaries.

Free copies of the guide are available by writing to: *This Way Success, A Guide to Historically Black Colleges*, PO Box 1055, Maple Plain, MN 55553.

SAVANNAH, GA.—Beautiful Beginnings, the children's product line of Dark & Lovely no-lye relaxer system, is sponsoring a national back to school initiative with free colorful, inspirational, cartoon style book covers celebrating the strength and beauty of African-American women.

The inside jacket of the book cover features a detailed essay contest as an incentive for students to win scholarship funds. The essay must be written in 300 words or less on the subject—"Girls of Today, Ladies of Tomorrow: Where Are Your Books Taking You?" Students must be 13 years or under to enter the contest. All essays must be postmarked before the February 21, 1996 deadline.

The student winning the essay contest wins a price package totaling approximately \$6,000. The prize package includes a \$2,500 cash scholarship for both student and his or her school, national recognition as the Beautiful Beginnings essay contest winner, a Beautiful Beginnings gift pack, and a Proud Heritage T-shirt. Five runner ups will receive a Beautiful Beginnings gift package containing an assortment of products and a proud heritage T-shirt.

"We are hoping that the eye-catching book covers along with the essay contest will inspire students to read more. Reading ultimately improves



Enter the contest and you could win one of these cool book covers. Photo courtesy of Beautiful Beginnings

communication skills which will be vital in preparing students for a highly competitive 21st century workforce," said Mario M. de la Guardia, brand manager for Dark and Lovely/Beautiful Beginnings.

Book covers will be distributed to public schools across the country or students may write Beautiful Beginnings, Carson Products Company, P.O. Box 22309, Savannah, Georgia 31403.

Children's artwork displayed in benefit exhibit

BLOOMFIELD—"Framing Our Children's Future," a benefit exposition and auction featuring children's art, will be held Sunday, November 5, from 2-5 p.m. in the Recreation Center on Fairleigh Dickinson University's Florham-Madison Campus.

More than 300 pieces of art will be made available for purchase. The program will help fund the futures of the "Kids In Business Entrepreneurs," a business run by kindergarten through eighth grade students from three elementary schools in Newark.

All proceeds from the auction will be dedicated to an endowment for these children, which currently totals more than \$20,000. The fund, established in 1993 through a \$5,000 donation from The MCJ Foundation, is designed to help "Kids In Business" graduates go to college or start their own businesses.

Admission to the auction is free. For more information about the art exposition and auction, call Barbara Weiland at 201-643-0686. For directions to the Florham-Madison Campus call the FDU Office of Public Relations at 201-692-7032.

Design your own Christmas seal

NEW YORK—For children across the country, this year's Christmas holiday season can begin before Halloween and last through Easter. The annual Christmas Seal® Kid's Drawing Contest, which kicked off this month, is asking kids to submit their hand-drawn designed Christmas Seals® that illustrate this year's theme: "Feeling Good at the Holidays."

Sponsored by the American Lung Association, The Triamminc® Parents Club and the National Education Association, the contest is open to children between the ages six and 15. Winners will be chosen from every state and will receive a My First Sony® Electronic Sketch Pad. The deadline for entries is March 31, 1996. Official entry form can be obtained by calling 1-800-LUNG-USA.

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Halloween safety tips

- Wear simple, light-colored costumes made not of flame-resistant materials.
- Decorate the front, back and sides of a costume with reflective patches.
- Keep wigs and hats securely fastened so they won't slip over the eyes.
- Use battery operated flashlight instead of a jack-o-lantern for better light at night.
- Walk on sidewalks, facing traffic.
- Cross busy streets at intersections or crosswalks. Look left, right and left again before crossing.
- Never walk behind or between parked cars.
- Always go trick-or-treating with an adult or parent. Avoid going alone.
- Only visit houses which have porch lights turned on.
- Inspect all treats carefully before eating them. Make costume props like swords and magic wands with rounded, not sharp edges.
- Wear flat and comfortable shoes. Trick-or-treating should be done on foot, not on bicycle.
- Partial facial mask with cosmetic or wear plastic mask that will not impair vision.
- Parents should review and approve trick-or-treat route before kids go out.
- Always eat before leaving the house.

Provided by New Jersey Optometric Association and PruCare.

Reactions to march

Continued from page A-4

Retired electrical engineer Avery Grant agreed also that the march was an untouchable experience for him. "It was a tremendous experience that I have never had. I went to support the concept not so much as to support Farrakhan, but after hearing him, I have a greater appreciation for him."

"I am glad that he (Farrakhan) had the courage, foresight and perseverance to push this thing forward," Grant, a resident of Long Branch and a retired Army Lieutenant Colonel says he would attend the march again if it were held next year. He says he is sure there will be a renewed emphasis on voter registration and the Long Branch NAACP chapter is preparing to create more male programs within community centers.

Dr. Kenny Sprott, a pediatrician from Plainfield, said he had some concerns about whether people would attend the march because of Minister Farrakhan, but later realized that enough people thought it was significant enough to go.

Sprott said he believed the event was such a success because for many years nothing has been happening. "Our power basis has been eroding and we as a people have been taken for granted. It was significant that many men came together to be taken

say we were standing together to take back our communities and take responsibility for what goes on there."

As for doing something for his community, Dr. Sprott says he is on the verge of launching a school-based clinic in Plainfield.

"I am at a point where I am changing my job. I will no longer be working in Newark so I have a lot more time to spend in Plainfield. However, the concept of the clinic was born before the march."

Rutgers University senior Tomari West went to Washington because he felt it was a good opportunity for black men to unite and his curiosity was aroused as to how the event would be.

"The atmosphere was all peace and all love. It was an experience I will definitely not forget. That diverse group of men from different areas, the East and West Coast and down South, for them to come and have that type of love, it was beautiful. There was no tension felt what so ever. Everybody seemed to be there for the same reason, which was to form some type of unity," reminiscenced West.

West said upon returning home he thought a lot about what effect the march would have, if any, on the

future of the black community.

"I left wondering what direction we were going to move in because that's how history has been as far as the black community is concerned. There would be a big event—a step in a positive direction, but when it comes time to implement, or to continue, things tend to size out. I don't know. I am kind of skeptical, and it's not because of the march, but the history of the march," West reiterated.

West said he enjoyed meeting people, feeling the unity and not having to worry about looking over his shoulder.

"Usually when I walk down the street I tend to be skeptical about how that person across the street is going to react to me and I am normally on my guard. But down there, I didn't feel any of that. I felt that was my brother next to me, the way it's supposed to be."

On a different note, the college senior said that Farrakhan's speech was not as good as ones he has heard in the past, but overall it was a good one.

"I think that because he had everything there, he tried to fit everything into the allotted time, and I felt something was left out. It seemed that the agenda was distorted because the speech was so long and I don't think it got home to everybody the way it should," West continued.

Minister Abdul Khadir Muhammad of Mosque 625 in Newark said he felt very compelled to get

involved in the march to make sure that the event would be something given to our black men and women "who really have never given us a chance to demonstrate our ability and power as concerned black men to help other black men to correct their lives and put them back on the right path with God."

Muhammad, state representative and coordinator of the march, like Davis, compared the atmosphere at the march to that of the gathering in Accra Ghana in December of 1994.

"When I went to Accra Ghana, I experienced the same beauty and the unity of blacks where violence wasn't rampant. I decided in Ghana, that this was something we have to have in the states, where you can see nothing but your brothers and sisters, hardly at any time a white man, but you see your own kind getting on in peace. No matter what the condition is and was."

Muhammad confirmed reports that there was no violence, no drinking, no smoking, no arguing. "It was a peaceful demonstration and one of the largest peaceful demonstrations. That morning when I got there about 4 a.m. there was about a thousand or better put front already, just waiting the whole night, in peace," he noted.

"I know that for a fact, as an eye witness, that we had a remarkable time. And for the mark of history, for the whole world to look at us and see us as a people they thought could never ever do anything like that, we pulled it off into something that we

can put into our cap of accomplishments," he added.

Regarding the misrepresentation of numbers by the police who reported 400,000 attendees and later that week doubled the number 800,000, Muhammad states, "There were 300,000 people there that morning around 5:30 a.m. now, when you watch the news maybe CNN and C-Span they had estimated that from the Capitol steps all the way down to the monument if that was to go filled, it would be one million, and when it got filled they said it's about 400,000."

"When I was standing on the left of the stage facing out looking through my binoculars, I saw people all the way past the monument, all the way down to the Lincoln Memorial, that's another stretch of blocks. Now when you figure Pennsylvania Avenue, which ended the Capital steps, there were people all the way down to the street from first street down to 10th Street."

"That's another 500,000 to 600,000, then on my right on that stretch of Independence Avenue, we had another 500,000 so we actually said it was about 1.5 million," Muhammad stated.

"And for the record, we had a demographer recently take a computer and scan it over a huge photo and he counted, in that photo alone 800,000 heads. So what it's saying to White America and black so-called intellectuals is that they are afraid that this man has come to be the leader of

black people and people of the world, because he always has something to say, even to whites," the minister later stated.

Muhammad wanted everyone to know that the march was not implemented to gain members for the Nation of Islam, but "to let people know that we can still become good people in whatever we do." Minister Farrakhan is not a selfish man, minister Farrakhan loves his people. So when you say having the march was just for the Muslims or to have people join the nation of Islam, no, it was for everyone."

Muhammad reported that a similar march, which would attract 500,000 men is in the works for NJ. "When I got back people were saying they wish they had went, but they didn't think it was going to be all that. They stayed away because the other bourgeois white-educated blacks were saying that it wasn't going to be all that," he noted.

Minister Muhammad recently received an award from the Newark Municipality in recognition for Newark's participation in the march. He stated that it was shocking that all the council people had something positive to say about the march even the white and Hispanic members.

Next week City News continues its coverage of the effect of the march including an eight-point plan created by the Nation of Islam for men and women to follow.

Fresh start

Continued from page A-1

contest. I am here to do whatever I can with your help to get this organization back on its feet to reclaim its position as the strongest, most viable and respected civil rights organization in the country," she added, announcing she will seek re-election at the end of her term in February 1996.

The NAACP head reported the \$4.9 million dollar deficit of the organization has been cut in half, currently standing at \$2.8 million and announced the association's new chief financial officer as Price Waterhouse, who will be held accountable for money spent and received.

Evers-Williams also spoke fondly of her two late husbands, slain civil rights leader, Medgar Evers and Walter Williams, who she credits for

her position.

"It's very difficult for me to come before a group and not pay tribute to Medgar. It pains me that he has not been remembered on a whole as I feel he should have been for the price he paid. But then I can't help but pay tribute also to Walter Williams...It has been the three of us Medgar, Walter and Myrtle and never once did he (Williams) complain about it."

She later stated, "Medgar died for NAACP, but I will live for the NAACP. I ask for your continued prayers and support and I feel good about where we have come in these few months...we are challenging America to be what she says that she is—a land of opportunity and freedom for all people."

Responsibility

Continued from page A-1

fewer—not more—people voted. After all the bloodshed and lives lost fighting to get the right to vote eight million blacks still remain unregistered to vote! We must atone for that sin and rebuild and fight for new public policies.

A million men can build coalitions. Blacks need not bear this cross alone. Every survival program being cut now—jobs, wages, Medicare, Medicaid, social security, food stamps, scholarships, legal support for battered women, affirmative action, economic set-asides—attack more whites, numerically, than blacks. Just because they put a Black face on poverty doesn't mean it's not open season on an entire poor and working class. A million men can organize into collective bargaining units. There is power in worker organizing.

A million men can set a moral tone for the whole nation. We must have a quality of ethics, responsibility, character and justice greater than the cultural norm. A million men must not conform, but transform, the na-

tion. We should affirm race pride, but not race identity. Cain and Abel were of the same race and family, but Cain killed Abel which reflected a character crisis. Color is inherited, character must be developed.

Racism is the great sin of our culture. Racism is morally wrong, socially distasteful, emotionally unsettling and politically destabilizing. As Dr. King said, "racism is an ontological affirmation that God made a creative mistake."

Racism, unbridled, drove the institution of slavery for 250 years. That same spirit, called fascism, led to 55 million deaths in World War II. It was the pillar of apartheid in South Africa. Racism, sexism, anti-Semitism, anti-Arabism, Asian bashing, homophobia and xenophobia are the stuff of which fascism is made. A great people must go another way. A million men can make a difference.

The National Rainbow Coalition is now on the World Wide Web with its own Home Page. Connect to <http://www.rainbow.org/rainbow>.

Community leaders

Continued from page A-1

enforcement officer for the county that I can be. That's something that you have to be proud of. Somebody who puts the job and what it requires ahead of the politics. We support that kind of activity."

Both Assemblywoman Nia Gill and Assemblyman Leroy Jones were recognized as Assembly persons of the year for their ability to represent "when an assemblyman and should be and of what an elected official should be," said the ECYD president.

The Hon. Maria Vizcarondo-DeSoto, the first Latino elected county official, received the Elected County Official of the Year Award for her "honesty, involvement and impact in the community." Due to her knowledge, leadership skills, efficiency, and warmth, Rice predicted "great things about our surrogate in the future," he paused before adding, "higher officer, maybe governor."

The Hon. Cathie Seidman, of Short Hills, and The Hon. D. Bilal Beardsley were elected Municipal Chairpersons of the Year.

The Rev. William Barnett, vice president of the Citadel of Hope Academy, was identified for his outreach efforts to the Young Democrats, but also to many young people in the community.

An Appreciation Award was bestowed upon Essex County Chairman Thomas Giblin for his verbal public relations efforts, his financial support, his knowledgeable guidance, and for being, as Rice puts it, the organization's "biggest cheerleader."

The Hon. Ronald L. Rice Sr. received the Senator of the Year Award and praised the Young Dems for being positive young people who serve as "role models for their generation and the generations coming up behind."

The Hon. Ruby Brown, another awards recipient, was not on hand at the time of the awards presentation. Councilman George Branch, Gayle Cheneyfield, Patrick McNally, and Bessie Walker were among the best local officials who attended the affair.

"It is wonderful to see our young people wanting to be independent and wanting to build a life for themselves," said Jeanette Seabrooks, the West Ward co-chair of the Democratic Committee.

Not only does ECYD intend to ignite a spark of hope in young people (ages 16 through 35) and encourage them to participate, but they also vow to carry the torch of uplifting the democratic party.

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ARTS WEDNESDAY

Dr. Lewis Jones, 'What A Man!'

NEW YORK—*ESSENCE* magazine and Coty have announced the winner of the *ESSENCE* and Preferred Stock cologne "What A Man!" contest. The grand-prize winner, selected from more than 800 contestants, is Dr. Lewis Jones, a practicing radiologist at Harper Hospital in Detroit, MI.

The contest, announced in the January 1995 issue of *ESSENCE*, sought nominations of men, age 18 and older, that the nominators considered exceptional.

The nominator submitted an original essay of 50 words or less describing the candidates' significant accomplishments in the areas of academic, professional, community-service, religious and family involvement.

A panel of judges chose the top 10 finalists, who were featured in the June 1995 issue of the magazine. Readers then voted for their choice by mailing in a coupon. Jones will be featured in the November 1995 issue of *ESSENCE*.

Jones, who was nominated by his wife, Pamela, says "When I won, it was like a dream come true. I'm really ecstatic, and it was an unbelievable moment!"

As a dedicated volunteer for the American Cancer Society, for over 10 years, Jones has educated African-



Pictured with Jones are (l to r) Candice Jacko, *ESSENCE*'s senior account executive; Dana Burke, product manager for Coty's House of Slesion's Preferred Stock Brand; wife Pamela Jones; and Barbara Britton, *ESSENCE*'s national advertising director.

Photo by Keith Reid

American women about breast cancer. As part of a unique presentation, Jones wears a breast vent, over his suit or sports jacket, to show women

how to perform a thorough breast self-examination. Over the years, he has received numerous awards including the Outstanding Radiology

Resident Award, the American Cancer Society Volunteer Leadership Award and the American Cancer Society Life-Saver Award.

For Colored Girls...A different message 20 years later

by Laura Andrews

Woody King, Jr., the founder and producing director of the Federal Theatre, celebrates with NFTA, the 20th Anniversary production of *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf*, two decades after the original production.

After 20 years, the production now musters a different sentiment among men. When the controversial play hit the Broadway stage, there were feelings of resentment, detachment, misunderstanding emanating between both sexes.

Attention was particularly directed at black men. There were black men who concurred that the play was demeaning, at least to them. They felt

that they were once again castrated. To them, the production was another attempt to extract the substance of their manhood. Moreover, the advent of the play was clear evidence of an ongoing conspiracy. This time they were viewing black women as co-conspirators.

To lessen this hardship and to resolve differences between black men and women affected, concerned and acknowledging these realities, seminars were organized and informal discussions rampantly grew. Interestingly, a reaction to the earlier play prompt another play to be founded. The second play claimed to be the answer to the continuous emerging problems between the sexes and it had targeted the exact approach to

resolving these differences.

It became the true resolution for another mass of people who view of black relationships as being in a quandary. For them, the second play did not lambaste black men. Black people could recognize their slave-based problems by resorting to a more suitable African resolution. In this production, pain was transformed into hope as African drummers played and danced as they searched for a oneness which offered an outlook for a new beginning between the sexes.

Comparatively, playwright and director Ntozake Shange's *Colored Girls...*, with the assistance of choreographer Mickey Davidson, set designer Chris Cumberbatch, sound designer Tim Schellenbaum, costume

designer Judy Deering, lighting designer William H. Grant III, musical composer Craig Harris and production stage manager Jacqui Castro, did not have to reckon with this brewing turmoil and public bickering existing 20 years ago.

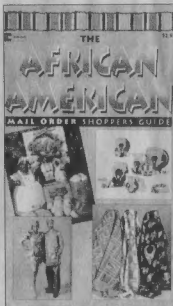
The new cast, which originally played to sold-out audiences at the New Federal Theatre changed its venue to Tribeca Performing Arts Center. The theme and message have not altered from the play's original text two decades ago.

The seven women adorning different colorful close-fitting bright dresses presence and acting remains powerful. Messages of pain, disappointment, resilience and hope reeks with tremendous laughter, empathy and sorrow.

The all-female cast in the play takes each monologue, dialogue and package it into an explosive message. The cast's profound acting does not leave room for any light-weight statements—whether spurious or accurate.

There is one significant difference with the New Federal Theatre's version of the production. It is questionable whether it is the time period—as some of the actresses believe. A few of the actresses disclosed that the play is not restricted to black women. One actress noted that the play encompasses all women. This actress mentioned that men react differently, this time around when they see *Colored Girls*.

The play's actresses are Carrina Ganey, Yvette Geider, Dandra Johnson, Dorcas Johnson, Patricia Johnson, Tanika Lamson and Brenda Phillips.



African-American Mail Order Shoppers Guide available

LOS ANGELES, CA—The Community Financial Investment Group, Corporation, a Los Angeles-based firm, recently announced their commitment to the national distribution of the *African-American Mail Order Shoppers Guide*. The 30-page full-color shoppers guide was produced by Earl Underwood, and features quality art, clothing and jewelry priced from \$15 to \$80.

While most of the suppliers in this particular issue of the *African-American Mail Order Shoppers Guide* are from South Central Los Angeles, all African-American manufacturers across the country are invited to submit samples of their products for display consideration in future issues.

Underwood especially hopes to encourage young people living in disadvantaged areas across the nation to sell their own products through his catalogue. For more information, submitting products or to have a catalogue mailed to you, please call toll free 1-800-898-4696.

Lights, action and a hi-8 camera! CITY ARTS covers the culture beat

NEW YORK, NY—What do an archeological dig in Harlem, a new generation of jazz in the Village and Boogie Woogie at the Museum of Modern Art have in common? They are all part of New York City's thriving cultural scene.

Thirteen WNET's CITY ARTS, a 13-part local weekly half-hour magazine that celebrates New York City's cultural life, premiered its first full season on Thursday, October 19 at 10 p.m. (re-broadcasts Fridays at 12:30 a.m. and Sundays at 7 p.m.)

Each week, CITY ARTS will highlight several of New York City's enduring arts institutions, as well as a number of lesser-known, but equally fascinating events around town. The series will also include interviews with noteworthy figures on the city's art scene and offer a must-see, must-do peek at what's hot this week called CITY ARTS Selects. (Programs subject to change.)

Upcoming season highlights will include a look at the "Beat Culture" Exhibition at the Whitney Museum with Allen Ginsberg and Robert

AHN presents the broadcast premier of Chameleon Street

NEW YORK—The African Heritage Movie Network (AHN), hosted by Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee, presents the broadcast premier of the comedy *Chameleon Street* as part of its "Movie of the Month" series are brought to you by AT&T.

Chameleon Street airs Monday, October 30, on WABC Channel 7. "AHN continues to bring movies that would otherwise go unseen," said Dee. "Chameleon Street is a delightful comedy that the whole family can enjoy."

Chameleon Street is not an address. It's about a man and his tale of the escapades of master Detroit impostor William Douglas Street (played by Wendell B. Harris), which takes place in Detroit, MI during the late 70's.

The comedy was written and directed by Wendell B. Harris. Other supporting cast includes: Angela Leshi, Paula McGee and Richard David Kiley. "The Movie of the Month" series is sponsored by AT&T.

Second Annual Nubian and Latino Beauty Show



Above, two of the many hairstyles to be showcased at the Expo

NEW YORK, NY—The Second Annual Nubian & Latino Beauty Show, a subsidiary of Big Show Expo, will be held Sunday through Tuesday, October 29 - 31, at the Jacob Javits Convention Center.

This melding of Salsa and Soul features the most exciting talent of both cultures, top talent and top name exhibitors such as Joico, Jingles International, Paul Mitchell, Pibbs, Elasta, and Paul Brown of Hawaii who will offer multi-lingual presentations.

Leading nail companies teaching classes will be Creative Nails,

Aspetto, and Galaxy Nails Color. Classes will be conducted in both Spanish and English.

There will be free classes every day, most will be two hours long, for participants with three combo registrations. The first 5,000 tickets ordered in advance will be only \$15 for a one-day attendance, excluding classes.

Not forgetting that this is Halloween weekend, show officials will sponsor nightly parties with live entertainment. For information on registration, competitions and advance tickets please call 212-757-7589, or outside New York 800-736-0886.



CALIFORNIA—Carl Martin, member of the platinum selling recording group, Shal, recently celebrated his birthday in grand fashion with a big music industry party. Held at a Hollywood nightclub, several celebrities came out to mark the occasion. In addition to his birthday the young maverick kicked his own record label entity, Carl Martin Entertainment (CME), in association with MCA Records. The songwriter responsible for the Shal hits If Ever Fall in Love, Comforter and Baby I'm Yours, acts as one of the group's main songwriters, in addition to arranger and producer. Shal recently released their new album, *Blackface*. Pictured from left to right: Leon Ware, Carl Martin, Marlon Wayans, Michelle Thomas and Dr. Dre.

Photo by Angela Pudding

Dreamgirls opens at the Paper Mill Playhouse



(l-r) Deldre Lang, Angela Robinson, Sharon Wilkins and LaTonya Holmes star in *Dreamgirls*.

Photo by Carol Rovega

MILLBURN—*Dreamgirls*, winner of six 1982 Tony Awards, will open at the Paper Mill Playhouse on October 25 and run through December 10. Created by Tom Eyton and Henry Krieger, the musical chronicles the rise to superstardom of a famed singing group.

The fast-moving story, driven throughout by a rollicking rock-and-roll rhythm-and-blues score, follows three girls from Chicago who, discovered by a manipulative promoter,

climb from a backup vocal group toward the top of the charts.

Effie, the lead singer, is replaced when it is decided that the groups need a sleeker look and sound, causing heartbreak and recrimination. All eventually realize that their chase after show business success has been personally destructive.

Performances are Wednesday through Sunday. For more information call the box office at 201-376-4343.



Pictured, Mamadou, a dance instructor at the Faeta Dance Studio, takes a student through the moves of the Lindy Hop.

Photo by Kate Kura

Rauschenberg; a lively and diverse look at how New Yorkers gravitate to an abundance of available dance lessons from Flamenco to African dance to the Lindy Hop; the origins of gos-

pel and the advent of the "gospel brunch;" and a look at the "Joey Theater" one of the city's most important houses for dance performance.

BILLBOARD

THRU OCTOBER 29
NEW YORK—Tallahassee musical at the Warehouse Theater at 8 p.m. For more info call 212-431-9220.

UNION—Censored on Final Approach (play about four pilots) at Kean College. For more info call 908-527-2371.

NEWARK—The Daughters of Lee Roy Jones (play) at the African Globe Theatre/Works at 8 p.m. For more info call 201-624-1584.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27
NEW YORK—Second Annual Nubian & Latino Beauty Show "Hot Hair Styles of Salsa & Soul" at the Motown Cafe at 9:30 a.m. For more info call 212-757-7589.

EAST ORANGE—A tribute to Phyllis Hyman at Brokers Entertainment Complex at 8:30 and 11:30 p.m. For more info call 201-678-8600.

HOBOKEN—Animated Film Screening & Art Exhibit at Maxwell's at 5 p.m. For more info call 201-763-6076.

BEGINNING OCTOBER 27
NEW YORK—"Plasta: The Musical" at the Harlem Victoria 5. For times and more info call 212-664-7725.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29
NEW YORK—Jazz Sunday Brunch featuring Bucky Pizzarelli on the Motown Yacht. For more info call 212-630-8100.

THRU NOVEMBER 12
NEW BRUNSWICK—"The Piano Lesson at Crossroads Theatre. For more info call 908-249-5560.

NOVEMBER 1 - 15
WATCHUNG—"Imaging New Jersey" exhibit at the Watchung Arts Center. For more info call 908-756-0190.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3
WATCHUNG—"King of the Road Swing Band at Watchung Arts Center at 8 p.m. For more info call 908-753-0190.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4
MONTAIC—"Trio Puerto Lain Jazz Ensemble at 8 p.m. at the Montclair State University. For more info call 201-

655-5112.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5
NEW BRUNSWICK—Tea for Two: A Victorian Garden Party, a fall auction and tea to benefit the New Brunswick Theater at 4 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency. For more info call 908-845-2895.

NEW YORK—Jazz Sunday Brunch featuring The Roy Meriwether Trio on the World Yacht. For more info call 212-630-8100.

WAYNE—Joe Williams joins the Paterson College Jazz Ensemble at 4 p.m. at William Paterson College. For more info call 201-595-2371.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10
NEW YORK—Shaggy live at Tramps. For more info call 212-727-7768.

NOVEMBER 10 - 19
NEWARK—Fifth Annual Newark Jazz Festival. Including Nease, Jonathan Butler, Lou Grassi, etc. For more info or call 201-643-3605.

NOVEMBER 10 - 30
NEW YORK—"Images of Excellence" exhibit at The Altium. For more info call 212-704-8173.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11
WATCHUNG—Vince Dimura, jazz pianist, performs at Watchung Arts Center at 8 p.m. For more info call 908-753-0190.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30
NEWARK—"Bus trip to see 'Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.' in NYC. Bus departs from Essex County College at 7 p.m. For more info call 201-877-3208.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2
NEWARK—"Bus trip to see 'Radio City Christmas Spectacular' in NYC. Bus departs from Essex County College at 7:30 p.m. For more info call 201-877-3208.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13
NEWARK—"Bus trip to see 'Alvin Ailey Dance Company' in NYC. Bus departs from Essex County College at 6 p.m. For more info call 201-877-3208.

Sports View names 1995 Coca-Cola All Academic Football Team



Ron Coleman, (3rd from r) manager media relations, The Coca-Cola Company and SIAC Commissioner, and Wallace Jackson, (second from l) congratulate Clark Atlanta University football players, Sharif Kemp (l), Wallace Muhammad (second from r), and Takia Oglesby, (l), on making the 1995-96 Coca-Cola All Academic Team.

ATLANTA, GA.—The Sports View Black-Columbia Football magazine presented the members of the 1995 Coca-Cola All-Academic Football Team.

The team's an award program designed to showcase and promote academic excellence and to high-

light the positive relationship between athletics and academic achievement. The team is comprised of 23 members: 11 offensive players, 11 defensive players, and two special-ists. To qualify, a player must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 through the 1995 spring semester.

Players are eligible after completing their sophomore year.

"Successfully balancing academics with athletic competition is an outstanding accomplishment," says Ron Coleman, media relations manager, The Coca-Cola Company. He adds, "These scholar athletes have found the winning formula for success, and we congratulate them on their achievements."

The 1995 team members are:

Offensive Team
Malcolm Benson, junior, Hampton University
Henry Bridges, senior N.C. Central
Steven Boze, senior, Mississippi Valley
Andrew Smith, sophomore, Bowie State
Arthur Wigfall, senior, Bowie State
Elsey Boykins, junior, Albany State
Jerome Hurd, junior, Tennessee State
Takia Oglesby, junior, Clark Atlanta

Defensive Team
Demarcus Jeter, sophomore, Fayetteville State

Wallace Muhammad, junior, Clark Atlanta
Alphonso Pogue, junior, Alabama State
Mike Brogden, junior, Bowie State
Corey Swain, junior, Albany State
David Carrington, senior, Howard University
Sharif Kemp, junior, Clark Atlanta
Carlos Lumpkin, junior, Fort Valley State
Devin Flowers, junior, Alabama State
Tarik-Abul-Quasim, senior, Delaware State
Lorenzo Pimpton, senior, Mississippi Valley State

Specialist
Peter Bailey, sophomore, Tuskegee Institute
Kenneth Powell, junior, Alabama State

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What's up At EMI?

D'Angelo—Summer '95: D'Angelo serves up some Brown Sugar—the soulful debut album featuring the tracks "Brown Sugar, Crusin and Lady."

Fall '95: Brown Sugar (single and album) attains Gold status. Set to release second single, Crusin, and embark on a 50-city U.S. tour.

Jon Secada—AMOR means love in all languages and is also the title of Jon's new Spanish album. AMOR is a very nostalgic sounding live record containing all original love songs penned by Jon. The album features Si No Te Conocieras, the Spanish version of the duet Jon sings with Shanie from the Pocahontas soundtrack. The duet If I Ever Knew You will be released in English. The album is now available in stores.

Thirteen/WNET to air Women's Health Day

NEW YORK, NY—Thirteen/WNET presents Women's Health Day on Saturday, October 28 from 12:30 to 11 p.m. with 10 programs focusing on issues like breast cancer, heart disease, menopause, and domestic violence. Co-hosting on issues like breast cancer, heart disease, menopause, and domestic violence. Co-hosting on issues like breast cancer, heart disease, menopause, and domestic violence. Co-hosting on issues like breast cancer, heart disease, menopause, and domestic violence.



A tribute to Marvin Gaye

NEW YORK—Be on the lookout for a solo album from Speeches of Arrested Development in early 1996. The album has a funky vibe of the 70s with a soulful tribute to Marvin Gaye entitled Like Marvin Gaye Said. This will be first single from Motown

Records' tribute Inner City Blues—The Music of Marvin Gaye. This project, which also includes contributions from Bono, Madonna and Boyz II Men, is highlighted by an MTV special Let's Get It On, which premiered on Wednesday, October 18.



People who make things happen.

"We need to reorder the issues and make education a priority."

William H. Gray III
President and CEO
The College Fund/UNCF

William Gray heads The College Fund/UNCF, the well-known organization that supports 41 private, historically Black colleges and universities and its students, who receive UNCF financial assistance.

Thanks to Gray's dynamic leadership, The College Fund has raised an unprecedented \$1 billion. Gray and UNCF will ensure that education will remain a priority well into the next century.

Anheuser-Busch supports the work of The College Fund and its member institutions, just as we support other educational and social programs, community projects and minority businesses.

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HEALTH CALENDAR

THRU NOVEMBER 14
RAHWAY—Diabetes Education Series at Rahway Hospital for outpatients. For more info call 908-499-0058.

THRU NOVEMBER 18
BASKING RIDGE—Flu shots at Visiting Nurse Association of Somerset Hills. For more info call 908-647-5258.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25
MONTCLAIR—Gender Equity and Health Care: The Forgotten Majority program at Montclair State University at noon. For more info call 201-655-5114.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26
NEWARK—Free foot screening at Columbus Hospital from 1 - 5 p.m. For more info call 201-268-1407.

NO. BERGEN—Free blood sugar screening at Palisades General Hospital from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. For more info call 201-964-0474.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28
BELLEVILLE—Back to the basics: Meal planning A La Carte: Healthy Holiday Eating program at the Clara Mass Health Systems & The Wound Care Center from 8:30 a.m. - noon. For more info call 201-226-1022.

NEWARK—Taking The High out of Hypoglycemia: Spanish program at St. Michael's Medical Center from 10 a.m. - noon. For info call 201-226-1022.

NEWARK—Lupus Foundation monthly meeting at 11 a.m. at United Hospitals. For more info call 201-791-7888.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 30
MORRISTOWN—Workshops for those diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis at the Parish House. For more info call 201-361-7688 or 201-693-0954.

BEGINNING OCTOBER 30
UNION—Eight-week Senior Action Aerobics program at the Union YMCA from 9:15 - 10 a.m. For more info call 908-964-0444.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31
SCOTCH PLAINS—Diabetes course at Union County College's Regional Health Education Center from 7 - 9 p.m. For more info call 908-780-7600.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1
MONTCLAIR—Fitness Rehabilitation Success for Women program at Montclair State University at noon. For more info call 201-655-5114.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2
NEW BRUNSWICK—Diabetes health fair, educational materials and programs at the Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital from 1 - 7 p.m. For more info call 609-937-8855.

PSE&G commits \$1 million to loan fund

NEWARK—The New Jersey Community Loan Fund and the Public Service Electric Service & Gas (PSE&G) Foundation announced the latest results of a multi-year financial commitment to the Fund totaling \$1 million.

This partnership represents PSE&G's first sustained effort to

promote community economic development in targeted communities throughout the state. When they entered into their relationship in 1992, PSE&G and the Fund agreed to a set of performance goals, which the Fund has greatly surpassed.

According to Anne S. Li, the Fund's executive director, the Fund has over

\$5 million in its revolving loan pool and has made or committed 79 loans totaling nearly \$80 million. Li says more than 3,700 lower-income New Jerseyans have received homes, jobs or services through Funds loans.

"We are thrilled to have the opportunity to work with the PSE&G Foundation," said Li. "Their \$1 mil-

lion commitment represented our most significant financial support at that time and has helped us attract support from many others."

The Fund is New Jersey's only statewide, private, nonprofit, community development loan fund. It provides technical assistance and specialized financing for community-based

housing and economic development projects which strengthen lower income communities and build opportunities for lower income people to achieve greater economic self-sufficiency.

The adoption alternative

SOUTH ORANGE—An educational forum entitled "Building Your Family Through Infant Adoption" is being presented by Spence-Chapin Services for Families and Children at the Baird Community Center in South Orange.

Scheduled for Wednesday, October 25 at 7 p.m. The forum is targeted to African-American couples and single adults who may be considering adopting a baby. The speakers will be Gladys Smith, Spence-Chapin's New Jersey representative and Toni Williams, an adoption specialist.

In addition, families who have already adopted will share their perspective with the audience. Admission is free, but reservations are encouraged as seating is limited. For reservations and directions please call Gladys Smith at 201-275-1212.

St. Bernard's Church annual dinner dance

PLAINFIELD—St. Bernard's Church will hold its 19th Annual Dinner Dance on Saturday, November 4. The evening begins with the celebration of the Eucharist at 5:30 p.m., and concludes with a Gala Dinner Dance.

In conjunction with the dinner dance, a souvenir booklet will be published. If you would like to attend the dance or purchase a spot in the souvenir booklet please call 908-756-3393.

AT&T donates health grant to Robert Wood Johnson Hospital

NEW BRUNSWICK—AT&T presented a \$25,000 grant to Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital's Community Health Promotion Program (CHPP) to assist the hospital in expanding its health outreach efforts in the African-American community of New Brunswick.

"The CHPP has made significant

strides in addressing the health needs of minority families and AT&T is pleased to help Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in its continuing efforts to improve the health status of the African-American community in the New Brunswick area," said AT&T spokesman Gus Merkel.

Credit and debit cards accepted at post office

PLAINFIELD—The Plainfield post office will now honor credit and debit card transactions allowing for a more convenient environment for customers.

American Express, Discover, Mastercard and Visa will be accepted for all purchases at

postal retail windows except money orders, passport applications and collect on delivery.

Debit and ATM cards including Interlink, Maestro and other local ATM cards will be accepted for purchase of all services at retail windows except passport applications.

Free breast cancer screenings

ORANGE—Recent statistics show that nearly one in every nine women will develop breast cancer at some time in her life. The good news is that if detected early, breast cancer has a cure rate of over 85 percent.

In an effort to raise awareness about this life-threatening disease, Hospital Center at Orange (HCO) will sponsor a free breast cancer screening on Saturday, November 4, from 9 a.m. to noon in the New Jersey Orthopaedic unit located at 289 Central Avenue in Orange. The screening includes a film and instructions on breast self-examination and a physical exam by an HCO physician.

In addition to the screening, participants will also have an opportunity to schedule an appointment for a low-cost mammogram. For more information and to make appointments, please call Deborah Edwards at 201-266-2021 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.



Photo courtesy of AKA

HILLSIDE—Sylvia Cyrus of Beta Alpha Omega Chapter, Newark of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. hands out information to one of the participants at the Annual Hillside Health Fair. Looking on are Zende Clarke, math teacher at WOK Middle School and Tim Dittley, math teacher at Hillside High School.

Election help available for people with disabilities

Many people take voting for granted. Sometimes it can be exciting, other times it may seem like a chore. For many citizens with disabilities, however, voting at the voting booth on Election Day has not yet been a part of their reality.

Their disability has kept them away from the election booth for many years. The New Jersey Association of the Deaf-Blind Inc., (NJADB) hopes to

change that.

NJADB has received a grant from the Developmental Disabilities Council to support people with deafness, blindness, communication impairment and/or developmental disabilities and their families to vote on Election Day, November 7.

If you or anyone you know needs the assistance provided by NJADB and would like to vote, please contact the at 908-805-1912.

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5/1 ARM		30 Year Term		Converts to 1-Year ARM in 5 years after which rate may increase or decrease annually	
RATE	APR	MAXIMUM LOAN	MONTHLY P&I PER \$1,000	CAPS	
6.750%	7.620%	\$500,000	\$6.49	2% annual & 5% lifetime	

3/1 ARM		30 Year Term		Converts to 1-Year ARM in 3 years after which rate may increase or decrease annually	
RATE	APR	MAXIMUM LOAN	MONTHLY P&I PER \$1,000	CAPS	
6.500%	7.770%	\$500,000	\$6.33	2% annual & 5% lifetime	

1 YEAR ARM		30 Year Term		Converts to 1-Year ARM in 3 years after which rate may increase or decrease annually	
RATE	APR	MAXIMUM LOAN	MONTHLY P&I PER \$1,000	CAPS	
5.750%	7.940%	\$500,000	\$5.84	2% annual & 5% lifetime	

Rates and APR (Annual Percentage Rate) for 10/15/95 are for one-to-four-family owner occupied homes and are subject to change without notice. A 20% down payment is required on loans to \$300,000. A 25% down payment is required on loans from \$300,000 to \$500,000. Down payments of less than 20% will be accepted with private mortgage insurance on loans to a maximum of \$203,000. P & I represents principal and interest payments on the loan.

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BUSINESS

NAACP conference gets down to business

by Sherry Burrus

EAST BRUNSWICK—An open roundtable discussion on business and economic development in the African-American community, on October 6 at the NAACP 73rd Annual State Convention, brought about meaningful dialogue from movers and shakers in the African-American business community.

"I believe there are three things that are important to the development to African Americans in America. One is education, the other is economics and the last is family stability. I don't care how many opportunities we have to create economically we have to have people educated trained and prepared to walk through those doors," said Fred Rasheed, president of Rasheed Associates.

"It's about creating wealth through ownership of assets, businesses, investments. Those are the things that will move us ahead economically," he continued.

Dr. Henry Johnson, publisher of *City News*, *Minority Business Journal*, *Minority Business to Business Directory* and *YES Magazine*, chaired the two-hour event, while participants shared their philosophies on creating economic stability in the African-American community.

Roundtable participants included: Rasheed, Neville Clark, chair of economic development for the Alliance Group; Malcolm Dunn, CEO Dunn & Sons, chair Minority Business Brain Trust Legal Defense Fund; Hamilton Bowser, president of Evan Bow Construction Co.; Howard Robinson, chairman of Regional vice

president of National Business League and George Subira, author of *Blacks Folk Guide To Making Money In America*.

Preparing the youth for success was a major concern of the participants. Many believed in order to have more black-owned businesses, parent and educators must prepare the youth to take on the challenge of running and owning their own businesses.

"One thing we are very short of is we don't have the trained youth to come behind us. I keep hearing black folks say we have to worry about the kids out on the corner when we should talk about the 75 to 80 percent that are good, because they have a better chance at making it than that 20 percent standing on the corner," Bowser stated.

However, Johnson counterpointed reminding that often youth behavior often prohibits many business owners from hiring black youth.

"They (youth) have got to understand and value their own behavior. What we have now are runaway attitudes that almost can't be corrected. Educators have got to get real about training youngsters to work in businesses...We can not have a trained workforce if the schools are not doing their jobs," said Johnson.

Another audience member says the responsibility starts at home. He blamed the lack of responsibilities youth have on the parents and guardians of the children.

"It isn't the children. It's where they come from. There are no bad children, there are bad adults and bad parents. Parents have to give these kids responsibilities, starting with chores," he said.

Other conversations revolved around building more facilities, evoking more involvement from the black communities, and building bridges between black owned businesses.

On Saturday, October 7, several community leaders were recognized at the annual award luncheon for their dedication and involvement with the NAACP including Sonya Redd, NJ ACT-SO Program; Walter Fields, Political Action-NAACP; Dr. Johnson, *City News* Publications; Citizens Action; and Dr. Howard Woodson, president of Trenton NAACP.

N.J. Congressman Donald Payton delivered the keynote address at the convention's luncheon where he credited the NAACP Youth and College chapters for his success. "I don't seriously think that I would be in the position I am in today if I had not become active in the NAACP Youth and College chapters."

Cong. Payne discussed the importance of knowing what goes on in Capitol Hill and City Hall. He says although African Americans have progressed, blacks are still under attack by government officials.

"Although we have seen a lot of progress, we have seen a tremendous amount of attack on the progress that we have made. We have seen Presidential candidates use affirmative action, welfare and other programs to divide our country, rather than bring us together," said the Congressman.

Cong. Payne rattled off some startling statistics about the conditions of African Americans:

- Almost 40 percent of African-American children live in poverty and remain there
- Life expectancy for African-Americans is dropping at the rate for two-months per year (whites is growing 3 months per year)
- Average life expectancy is 64.2 years
- Homicide is leading cause of death of African American males for the ages of 15 and 24
- One in three African-Americans male has some link to the criminal justice system via parole, probation or incarceration.

"We need to have, more than ever before, strong programs in our NAACP. We need to look at what is happening in our communities...we have to know the facts," reminded the Congressman.

The congressman said, "I believe the march is bigger than one of the men involved in it...there are a lot of things that I don't agree with that Louis Farrakhan says and vice versa, but the general purpose of this march is getting back our communities, our cities, and have our men exert themselves. We need to have the whole unity concept."

NJCPA's year end tax tips

ROSELAND—To avoid unpleasant surprises at tax-filing time, the New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants (NJCPA) suggests that now is the time before December 31, to review your tax situation and develop strategies to lessen your tax bill. Here are some tax-trimming tips to follow:

Retirement accounts
If you have an IRA, Keogh plan or employer-sponsored 401(k) account, plan to contribute the maximum amount in 1995. Contributions are made with pre-tax dollars, thereby reducing your taxable income while allowing your money to grow tax-deferred.

Adjust filing status
If you're in a higher tax bracket this year, adjust your withholding or you'll risk an underpayment penalty in 1996. On the other hand, if you received a refund this year, you may be overpaying, in which case you should adjust your withholding and invest the extra cash.

Tax-exempt investments
If you are in a high tax bracket, a low-yielding, tax-exempt investment may be the right choice. For example, a tax-free municipal bond returning 5 percent is equal to a taxable bond returning 7.81 percent for an investor in the 36 percent tax bracket.

Kiddie tax
You may be able to reduce your family's overall tax bill by transferring income-producing assets to your children. But beware, this tax affects children under age 14. The kiddie tax rule says the first \$650 of interest and

dividend income is tax-free, the next \$650 is taxed at the child's rate, usually 15 percent, and any excess over \$1,300 is subject to the parents' top marginal tax rate.

Be charitable
As long as you itemize, charitable donations are generally fully deductible. The rules now require written documentation for any donation of \$250 or more. If you donate appreciated property held for more than one year, you generally can deduct the property's fair market value and not pay tax on its appreciation. In general, a donation of capital gain property is deductible up to 30 percent of your AGI.

Tally Medical Bills
Medical expenses are deductible only after surpassing 7.5 percent of your AGI. If you're close to your AGI limit, accelerate your upcoming medical appointments. Otherwise, consider postponing any non-essential medical procedures until next year.

Bunch Miscellaneous Deductions
Miscellaneous expenses are deductible only to the extent they surpass 2 percent of your AGI. If your miscellaneous expenses hover around the 2 percent limit, try to bunch them into alternate years to increase your deduction.

Auto expenses
When itemizing miscellaneous and medical deductions, be sure to claim all appropriate travel expenses. You may be able to claim 30 cents per mile as a miscellaneous deduction when traveling to meet your accountant, financial planner, broker, invest-

ment adviser or estate tax attorney. If you qualify for a medical deduction, you may be able to claim 9 cents a mile for travel to and from medical facilities.

Alternative minimum tax
If you have a lot of deductions or credits, you should be aware of the Alternative Minimum Tax, or AMT. This is a separate tax that is triggered when extensive deductions or credits drastically reduce your tax liability. The only way to determine if it affects you is to calculate your tax liability the regular way and the AMT way.

Talk to a CPA
Make sure you are not paying more in taxes than you should. CPAs are well-versed on the latest tax developments and planning strategies and can help you minimize your tax burden.

BUSINESS CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25
SOMERSET—The '95 Mid-Jersey Business Expo at the Garden State Exhibit Center. For more info call 908-725-1552.

JACKSON HEIGHTS, NY—Minority/Women-Owned Business Enterprise Advocacy Forum and awards program at LaBonte Restaurant at 6 p.m. For more info call 212-229-3350.

NEWARK—ASDO Annual Network Event at the Clarion Hotel, Newark International Airport. For more info call 201-961-4278.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27
JERSEY CITY—Exporting Fundamentals workshop at Hudson County Community College from 9 a.m. - 12:30. For more info call 201-714-2107.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28
JERSEY CITY—410K Retirement Planning Made Simple seminar at Jersey City State College from 10 to 11 a.m. For more info call 201-200-3089.

OCTOBER 29 - NOVEMBER 1
NEW YORK—NMSSC Annual Conference and Business Opportunity Fair, sponsored by the National Minority Supplier Development Council. Call 212-944-2430.

OCTOBER 30 THRU NOVEMBER 1
NEW YORK—Effective Executive Speaking session at the AMA Management Center. For more info call 1-800-282-9699.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1
NEWARK—Light Rail Transit for Newark: A History of the City Subway and Plans for the Future program at First Fidelity Bank at 8 a.m. For more info call 201-242-6237, ext. 225.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2
ELIZABETH—Regional Business Partnership's Office Technology Expo at the Newark Hilton Airport at 8 a.m. For more info call 201-242-6237, ext. 222.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6
CRANFORD—Making Money Work for You course at Union County College at 6:30 p.m. For more info call 908-709-7600.

NOVEMBER 8 - 8
NEW YORK—Business to Business Database Marketing National Conference at the AMA Headquarters. For more info call 203-857-5660 or fax 203-857-5654.

NEW YORK—Enhancing Your Presentation Skills: A Seminar for Sales Professionals sessions at the AMA Management Center. For more info call 1-800-282-9699.

NOVEMBER 7 - 9
NEW YORK—Advertising and Copy Research Seminar at the New York Hilton. For more info call 212-751-5656, Ext. 234.

NOVEMBER 7 - 28
NEW YORK—Business Development Assistance Program at the National Minority Business Council offices from 4 p.m. For more info call 212-973-2385.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9
NEWARK—Regional Business Partnership Affirmative Action Symposium at the Newark Gateway Hilton Hotel at 8 a.m. For more info call 201-242-6237, ext. 222.

PARSIPPANY—Wages, Hours & Pay Seminar for personnel and payroll managers at the Holiday Inn Parsippany. For more info call 201-263-0090.

NOVEMBER 10, 11
NEW YORK—Uncommon Women on Common Ground Seminar at the Sheraton Towers from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13
NEW BRUNSWICK—NAJWB's Business Showcase at the Hyatt Regency from 6 to 9 p.m. For more info call Della Manachella at 908-958-1019.

BEGINNING NOVEMBER 14
WAYNE—"Start Right! Build Right! Excel!" 15-hour seminar for women every Tuesday evening at 7 p.m. For more info call 201-595-2344.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15
NEWARK—Government Center Development Corporation program at 905 Broad St. at 8:15 a.m. For more info call 201-242-6237, ext. 225.

NOVEMBER 28 - 30
BOSTON—Field & Sales Force Automation Conference. For more info and a free brochure call 508-470-3880 or fax 508-470-0526.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29
CRANFORD—Trust and Estate Planning course at Union County College at 6:30 p.m. For more info call 908-709-7600.

CRANFORD—Asset Diversification course at Union County College at 6:30 p.m. For more info call 908-709-7600.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30
NEWARK—International Business Over Breakfast at The Newark Club at 8:30 a.m. For more info call 201-242-6237, ext. 223.



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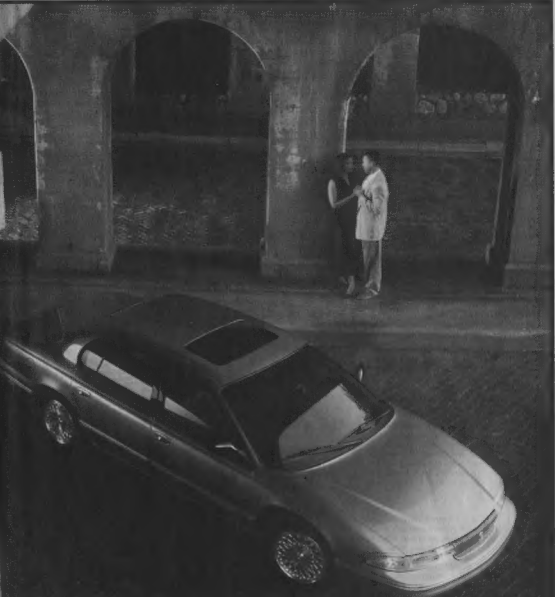
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Balance



At Philip Morris, we believe that adults have a right to choose whether or not to smoke.

But we also believe that minors should not smoke. These two issues — preserving the right of adults to make personal choices and preventing minors from having access to cigarettes — are equally important. But they should be addressed separately. It's important to maintain a balanced view so both issues get the attention they deserve.

For instance, our recently launched initiative, *Action Against Access*, is one of the most comprehensive programs ever introduced to prevent minors from having access to cigarettes. We are confident that this program will make a difference.

On the other hand, we will continue to vigorously support the right of adults to make personal choices.

Our position is that the issue of youth and cigarettes should not be used to curtail the freedom of those adults who choose to smoke.

It's important to prevent minors from having access to cigarettes. But it's just as important to respect the right of adult smokers and nonsmokers to make individual choices.



**We want you to know
where we stand.**

Facts Matter

In June of this year, Philip Morris voluntarily stopped distributing free samples of all its cigarette brands in the United States as part of its *Action Against Access* program.